

Kapiti Branch

New Zealand Society of Genealogists
www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nzlsgkb



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Registered charity no. CC33988



Newsletter April, 2012

Editors Corner. – This will be my last newsletter. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the committee and members who have helped supplying information. If members have items they wish to include in the next newsletter I will accept them and pass them onto my successor.

If you have any articles to submit to the newsletter please send them through to Sue Greene email at sueg-97@xtra.co.nz

Acting Convenor's Comment. – This is the final comment from me as Acting Convenor before the AGM which is set down for the next Branch Meeting on Tuesday 24th April at 7 p.m. in the Kapiti Community Centre.

Branch members holding NZSG membership are asked to seriously consider putting their names forward to assist in the running of the Branch on the Committee. All members can assist with positions outside the committee. The list of areas where assistance is needed grows. The latest is a requirement to replace Adele Smith who after 2 years has decided to relinquish the monthly job of organizing the raffle. Is there anyone who can take her place? Thanks Adele for your sterling efforts over the past two years.

We continue to look for an editor for our monthly Newsletter and also a marketing officer for the YURU programme. Please contact the secretary Lyn Lee if you can help with any of these positions.

I have mentioned previously that an upgrade of our equipment is necessary. The first step has been taken with the purchase of a new Laptop from Club funds. Quotes are currently being sought prior to applying for funds to up-date our Library hardware.

It was great to see the large band of helpers in the Kitchen at the last Branch Meeting. Long may this continue. Just keep an eye on the notice in the foyer advising which group of people is being asked to assist. Judy was most appreciative of the assistance she received last month.

We had a most interesting Guest speaker at our last Branch Meeting and I'm certain that questions would have continued well into the evening. Andrew Malcolm Managing Director of the Kapiti Coast Funeral Home assisted by his wife gave an informative address on Graveyards and Headstones and his hints on preserving and restoring these were well received.

Looking to the future we have the evening sessions at the APFHC commencing on April 19th and the Genealogy game on April 21st. You will find out more about these further on in this Newsletter.

Finally don't forget the AGM on Tuesday 24th April at 7.00 p.m.

Happy hunting
Bill McKeich
Acting Convenor

Meetings Coming Up/ Events. -For full details go to the branch web site at <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nzlsgkb/> Click on programmes.

Monthly Branch Meeting

7pm supper, 7.30pm meetings start. Guest speaker begins 7.45pm. Venue Kapiti Community Centre. (KCC)

Tuesday 24th April Branch AGM starts at 7.00pm. Followed by our guest speaker Robert Barnes, FamNet.

Tuesday 22nd May Howard Chamberlain. WW1 NZ Tunnellers.

Wed. Morning Help Sessions at the Alison Proctor History Centre (APFHC) upstairs in the library. 10am-12pm. **May** 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 **June** 6,13,20,27.

Interest Group meetings held at; Kapiti Community Centre 15 Ngahina Street (KCC) and at the Alison Proctor Family History Centre. (APFHC)

FTMUG (Family Tree Maker User Group KCC) Sat. 9.30am -12.30pm, (No meeting for May) **LUG** (Legacy User Group KCC) Sat. 12.30pm – 4.30pm, (No meeting for May) **IIG** (Irish Interest Group APFHC) Sat. 12 May 9.30am – 12pm, **AIG** (Australian Interest Group APFHC) Thurs. 10 May 10am – 12pm, **SIG** (Scottish Interest Group APFHC) Sat. 5 May 9.30 – 12.30pm **CFG:** (Computer Friendly Groups KCC) Meets the second Monday of the month 7.30pm Mon. 14 May. Topic Producing Your Family History using MS Word.

Coming Events. Orientation and Information Evening Sessions: 6.00pm - 7.30pm at APFHC, Paraparaumu Library: April, June, August, and October 2012.

As advised there will be four evening sessions this year covering the resources the branch holds.

The topics for these will be:

April 19th: What's here and how do I access it? An overview of what resources we have. How to sign in, turn on computers and use CD's.

June 21st: BDM of New Zealand and overseas,(bdm NZ online and free bdm.uk). How to use Archway (Archives NZ).

Aug 9th: What's on the computers? Using Ancestry.com and Find My Past. Census records.

Oct 18th: Using Family Search - the LDS (Mormon) site.

Sat. 21st April. The Genealogy Game. Here's another opportunity for those who missed out in 2011, as Kilbirnie Branch members of NZSG are bringing The Genealogy game to Kapiti again this year.

Those who came last year enjoyed the challenges of working in small groups to solve the game. You are welcome to come again. Maybe this time you will spot the red herrings! Encourage your friends to attend as it would be good to have many participants. Last year we were put into small groups on the day, so each group had members with a range of experience in genealogy. This made the competition fair.

When? Saturday 21 April 1pm-4pm

Where? KCC room, where our monthly meetings are held

Who? Both experienced and new researchers will learn something new.

Cost? \$5 each competitor. Pay at the door.

Previous Meetings.

March Evening meeting: Andrew Malcolm from Kapiti Funeral Home did a presentation on Graveyards and Gravestones, the upkeep and/or restoration of headstones and the best way to make impressions/rubbings. He also talked about the location of local graveyards.

Branch Notes.

We welcome the following new members, Michael MCKELVIE, Dermot SULLIVAN, Trevor COBELDICK, Reginald PLATT, Alison STIRRAT, Bev MATTHEW, Margaret BROWN and Ian GODDARD.

Death Notice: - OLSSON Bertram Henry (Bert) O.B.E. of Waikanae Country Lodge, died on 28.2.2012 age 90, husband of Monica.

Tea Makers. P - U.

The current Branch Membership Year - ended on the 31st March 2012. Your renewal Membership Subscription of \$20 per person is now due and payable, with the usual period of grace to make payment.

Payment may be made by: - **EITHER:** Cheque for \$20 per person made payable to "Kapiti Genealogy", with sender's name & address on the back flap of the envelope, and posted to: *Membership Renewal*, Kapiti Branch NZSG, Box 703, Paraparaumu. 5254. - **OR:** By internet banking to our Westpac Account 03-0732-0263025-00 please:

(a) Include some identifier with the payment, e.g. name, street, Kapiti Genealogy Membership Number (it's on your current card).

(b) Identify if you are an NZSG Member by including your NZSG Membership Number.

(c) Email Lorna at kapiti@genealogy.org.nz including "Membership Renewal" in the subject line to let her know to check the branch account.

Please allow for a processing time of "a couple of weeks" at least. If you have paid your sub prior to 15th April and it has not yet been acknowledged, please contact Lorna as there may have been unidentified payments in the bank account. Any subs unpaid by 1 May will be invoiced. If you do not intend renewing your subscription, we would appreciate knowing before that date.

Used Ink Cartridges: - The Branch collects used ink and toner cartridges for recycling to raise funds. Please pass your old cartridges to Derek at a Branch Meeting, or put them in a box in the locked metal cabinets at the Alison Procter Family History Centre upstairs at Paraparaumu Library, or leave them in Derek's letter-box, 94 Ngaio Road, Waikanae. We can recycle Canon, Lexmark, Hewlett Packard, Epson, and Brother cartridges.

Computer Password at the APFHC - APFHC computer password changes every month, members will have to get the key to check the red folder in the drawer.

[FINDMYPAST.CO.UK](http://findmypast.co.uk) PUBLISHES NEW TITANIC RECORDS - White Star Line Officers' books that were due to be destroyed made available online for the first time

Leading family history website findmypast.co.uk has published two new fascinating sets of records, which include information about the passengers and crew aboard the Titanic's ill-fated maiden voyage. The [Maritime birth, marriage and death records](#) and [White Star Line Officers' books](#) are both available from today.

Debra Chatfield, family historian at findmypast.co.uk, said: "These fantastic new additions to findmypast.co.uk will be of immense value not only to people with ancestors who were employed at sea, but also to anyone who has been struggling to find a record of an ancestor's birth, marriage or death. There has never been a single centralised register of births, marriages and deaths at sea, so many of the names listed in these records will not appear in the information already available online."

Committee News.

Use of Mail List

Your Committee has received one official complaint and several concerned comments from Branch members about the apparent use of the branch membership list by the organiser of the Waikanae Chartered Club Daytime Genealogy Group to advertise that group's activities.

On joining Kapiti Branch, members sign an agreement that in keeping with the Privacy Act their contact details shall only be used by the Committee for official branch purposes. A number of requests for access to the list have been denied in recent years, including a request from the WCCDGG.

The WCCDGG is not an official activity of the branch but we have agreed to promote it in our newsletter as another local network for those interested in family history. The Committee has taken this matter up with the organiser.

AGM - Notice is hereby given that the 28th Annual General Meeting of the Kapiti Branch of The New Zealand Society of Genealogists Inc. (NZSG) will be held at the Kapiti Community Centre, Pak'n' Save Room, 15 Ngahina Street, Paraparaumu, on Tuesday, 24 April 2012 commencing at 7.00pm.

Nominations are called for a minimum of five Committee Members, including the positions of Convenor, Secretary and Treasurer.

Nominees, Nominators, and Seconders must all be members of both NZSG and Kapiti branch. Nomination forms are attached to this newsletter, and available from the Secretary.

While nominations will be received at the AGM, members are encouraged to submit these beforehand so that credentials can be checked.

Details of the agenda and nomination forms for the Committee were included with the March Newsletter.

Not the committee type? You don't have to be on the committee to help the branch provide services. You don't have to be an expert on genealogy either. The main requirement is having a bit of time to spare and being willing to work with others for the good of the branch. The many activities we provide are all organised by volunteers, and this time of year we're looking for new faces to join in. Here are some of the things that need doing:

Newsletter Editor, Marketing and Publicity Manager to include assistance with YURU (Why you are you) in August. Help at the library any Wednesday morning during public research sessions.

If you can lend a hand in these areas, or can be available for other tasks, please tell someone on the committee.

Although we have nearly 280 members we are desperately short of volunteer help on and off the Committee and some of our activities are now showing signs of stress because we simply have not got sufficient hands on deck. Please offer your services - you will be part of a great team who have the running of the branch at heart.

News

The NZSG Scottish Interest Group of Greater Wellington. - Will be holding a research afternoon with some of their resources, and a brief AGM at 1:30 pm, at the Church House, St Giles Church, corner of Kilbirnie Cres and Vallance St, Kilbirnie. **Sunday 6 May 2012** from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm, charge \$5, all welcome. Contact Pen Brown, 389 7211.

From Crofts to Castles - Valuation Rolls in Scotland Go Online for the First Time. - Please find below a news release for the launch of the Valuation Rolls in Scotland for 1915 on the ScotlandsPeople website. Images, case studies, background information and statistics can all be accessed at the ScotlandsPeople Media Website: <http://media.scotlandspeople.gov.uk/index.html>

The case studies contain interesting and quirky stories about famous Scots and Scottish families who appear in these historical records - including Ewan McGregor, Paolo Nutini, Alastair Sim, Brian Cox, Donald Trump, William Speirs Bruce and Lawrence 'Laurie' Auchterlonie.

The case studies also include interesting stories about historic buildings, football grounds and famous country estates.

The Whole Earth is the Tomb of English People. - Quite a few years ago I gave a guest talk at your branch of the New Zealand Society of Genealogists. My talk drew upon my book ***The Whole Earth is the Tomb of English People***, and was concerned with the various ways in which the English have affected the world. Naturally enough, given the nature and interests of your membership, I seem to recall that the talk was well-received, and I was pleased to sell a few copies of my book to members at the end. It was a success from everyone's point of view.

Recently I have 'got with the times' and have e-published ***Tomb*** on Amazon (i.e. I have published an e-version of the book, which can be purchased and read online, or on a 'Kindle' tablet), and I am writing to you to ask if you would be so kind as to let your members know about the e-version of the book, perhaps by way of your electronic newsletter, or by group email. I am sure that quite a few members – especially those who bought a hard copy of my book at the time - would be interested to hear that an e-version of the book is now available, and might wish to pass on details to friends and relatives both here and in England.

NZ readers must purchase from Amazon's US site (the price is US\$3). The following link should take members there (but if it doesn't, they should go to amazon.com and search for 'Duncan Balmer': <http://www.amazon.com/Whole-Earth-English-People-ebook/dp/B0073ZOZK6>. Friends and relations in England should instead go to <http://www.amazon.co.uk/Whole-Earth-English-People-ebook/dp/B0073ZOZK6>

BAPTISMS, MARRIAGES AND BURIALS FROM WELSH ARCHIVES PUBLISHED ONLINE FOR THE FIRST TIME - leading family history website findmypast.co.uk has announced the launch of the first tranche of parish records from Wales - part of a major new project with the Welsh County Archivists Group and the National Library of Wales.

3,878,862 million records from parish registers from the Church in Wales can now be searched for the first time online from today comprising: 1,418,921 baptism records covering 1538-1911 950,254 marriage records covering 1539-1926 340,002 marriage banns covering 1701-1926 1,169,685 burial records covering 1539-2007 These records cover the counties of Cardiganshire, Carmarthenshire, Denbighshire, Flintshire and Glamorganshire.

NZSG News

Web Site: <http://www.genealogy.org.nz/>

NZSG Council Elections - NZSG members should be aware that due to a legal error in announcing the close off date for nominations for the 2012 to 2014 Council, there will be no postal vote for the new Council, which under normal circumstances the results of which would be announced at the AGM in Taupo on Sunday June 3. We understand that full details were announced in the March/April edition of *The New Zealand Genealogist* which should be in your mailbox shortly. Nominations will therefore be called at the AGM and an election held by vote from the floor.

This is a most regrettable situation which disenfranchises many members of the Society. Your Committee will be nominating Deputy Convenor Clive Palmer as a Council member and several of us will be travelling to Taupo to support him. The AGM commences 1pm with registration and we are arranging transport to and from Taupo on that day. Any NZSG member who wishes to join the support group should contact our Secretary Lyn Lee.

Our two monthly presentation. – Was on services available to members of the NZ Society of Genealogists (NZSG) covered Documents Online, one of the more recent additions to the benefits of membership of our national body. Documents Online is the online branch of the UK National Archives covering 1000 years of history. Anything you can find on there that is available for download for a fee may instead be requested for a free download, via the NZSG research officer.

Lorna provided a brief overview on how to search Documents Online, obtain the necessary references, and then request your free download from NZSG. There are some gems to be found in there, eg the service records of two sisters, both nurses, from New Zealand elicited the information that one was of a "difficult disposition" and the other had "an interesting history", along with the more prosaic and expected service history.

To find out more, go to Documents Online (<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/documentsonline/>) and view their own FAQs and news, and also log in to the members area of NZSG (<http://genealogy.org.nz/>); select Members Area, then Documents Online for full instructions.

Kapiti Branch Contact Details.

Kapiti Branch Contact details:

Acting Convenor Bill McKeich yanakie@@clear.net.nz Tel: 9056952

Lyn Lee, Secretary kapiti@@genealogy.org.nz Tel. 293-1610. Lyn is also the branch contact for FamNet.

Lorna Henderson, Treasurer/Membership Secretary kapiti@@genealogy.org.nz Tel. 293 7771.

Full details of other Committee members and their responsibilities can be found on our website.

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<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nzlsgkb/>

Daytime Interest Group. - (Sponsored by the VFO Trust, Corporate member of the Waikanae Chartered Club) Daytime Group of Waikanae Chartered Club, Elizabeth Street, Waikanae morning tea, Contact Hanley Hoffmann - hdhoffmann@@paradise.net.nz 04 9043276 (Note the April meeting has been cancelled the next meeting will be May24th)

(This is not affiliated with the Kapiti branch but we have agreed to advertise this activity in our newsletter)